APPENDIX 1.

Agricultural Best Management Practices of Southwest Idaho

BMP Application

Private Agricultural Land

A BMP is a conservation practice designed for application on a specific site to address a specific nonpoint source (NPS) pollutant or resource concern. BMPs are based on site-specific data gathered and analyzed by a trained and experienced conservationist or resource specialist. Site data typically includes information regarding soils, slope, climate, topography, crop rotation, equipment availability, water quality, water quantity, and current resource condition. The conservationist or resource specialist uses all of the site data, in addition to his or her experience and professional judgement, the landowner's objectives, and the desired water quality goals to select the component practices that will address the resource concerns for that site. The conservationist or specialist will present the landowner with a number of alternative BMPs that will not only meet the water quality goals, but will also meet the landowner's needs and capabilities.

Public Land

On public lands the BMP implementation process is a bit more complicated. It typically involves an environmental evaluation, a public land use plan, interdisciplinary teams of resource specialists, and much more public involvement. BMP implementation is generally accomplished through contract with or direct involvement from one of the management agencies (i.e. U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management).

Developing BMPs

Typical agricultural land use categories for BMP application include:

- Irrigated Cropland
- Non-irrigated Cropland
- Grazing Land
- Animal Waste Management
- Riparian/Wetland

A BMP usually requires the use of several component practices to meet water quality goals. A combination of BMPs may be necessary to meet water quality goals on a particular land management unit. Certain component practices are considered extremely important to ensure BMP effectiveness. For instance, Irrigation Water Management is an essential part of an Irrigated Cropland BMP. It is recommended that a BMP developed for application on irrigated or non-irrigated cropland includes Nutrient Management and Pest Management component practices. In addition, a Waste Management System should be a component of an Animal Waste Management BMP.

Component practices commonly selected for each of the five land use categories

Irrigated Cropland BMPs

- Chiseling and Subsoiling
- Conservation Cropping Sequence
- Conservation Tillage
- Contour Farming
- Cover and Green Manure Crop
- Critical Area Planting
- Diversion
- Filter Strip
- Grade Stabilization Structure
- Grasses and Legumes in Rotation
- Irrigation Land Leveling
- Irrigation Pit or Regulating Reservoir
- Irrigation Storage Reservoir
- Irrigation System
- Irrigation Water Conveyance
- Irrigation Water Management
- Land Smoothing
- Nutrient Management
- Pest Management
- Reservoir Tillage
- Sediment Basin
- Stripcropping
- Structure for Water Control
- Subsurface Drain
- Unerground Outlet
- Water and Sediment Control Basin
- Well

Non-irrigated Cropland BMPs

- Buffer Strips
- Chiseling and Subsoiling
- Conservation Cropping Sequence
- Conservation Tillage
- Contour Farming
- Cover and Green Manure Crop
- Critical Area Planting
- Diversion
- Filter Strip
- Grade Stabilization Structure
- Grassed Waterway
- Grasses and Legumes in Rotation
- Nutrient Management
- Pest Management
- Sediment Basin
- Subsurface Drain
- Terrace
- Underground Outlet
- Water and Sediment Control Basin

Grazing Land BMPs

- Brush Management
- Critical Area Planting
- Deferred Grazing
- Fencing
- Grade Stabilization Structure
- Livestock Exclusion
- Nutrient Management
- Pasture and Hayland Management
- Pasture and Hayland Planting
- Pest Management
- Pipeline
- Planned Grazing System
- Pond
- Proper Grazing Use
- Proper Woodland Grazing
- Range Seeding
- Spring Development
- Stock Trails and Walkways
- Trough or Tank
- Well

Animal Waste Management BMPs

- Critical Area Planting
- Dike
- Diversion
- Grade Stabilization Structure
- Heavy Use Area Protection
- Irrigation System
- Irrigation Water Conveyance
- Irrigation Water Management
- Pond
- Pond Sealing or Lining
- Pumping Plant for Water Control
- Waste Management System
- Waste Storage Pond
- Waste Storage Structure
- Waste Treatment Lagoon
- Waste Utilization

Riparian/Wetland BMPs

- Channel Vegetation
- Critical Area Planting
- Deferred Grazing
- Ephemeral Watercourse Planting
- Fencing
- Filter Strip
- Fish Stream Improvement
- Grade Stabilization Structure
- Heavy Use Area Protection
- Livestock Exclusion
- Pipeline
- Planned Grazing System
- Pond
- Proper Grazing Use
- Spring Development
- Stock Trails and Walkways
- Streambank and Shoreline Protection
- Stream Channel Stabilization
- Structure for Water Control
- Wetland Development and Restoration